

Saigon CIA Personnel Facing Shakeup

CPYRGHT By Lewis Gulick

The United States intelligence chief in South Viet Nam, John H. Richardson, and some American officials at Saigon probably will be recalled in a shakeup of personnel under Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge.

Reporting this yesterday, sources said Richardson is being brought back to Washington "for consultation," but Lodge has asked for a permanent replacement.

The others who may be replaced in the diplomatic-military trouble spot were not identified. It was said that Lodge, who took over as Ambassador in late August, feels that changes are needed for

CPYRGHT a more effective performance of Intelligence Agency men by the American Embassy.

One major difficulty has been dealing with the authoritarian regime of President Ngo Dinh Diem. At one point Washington hoped that Diem would get rid of his influential brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, who is regarded as a powerful advocate of tough tactics against the regime's Buddhist opponents.

With Washington trying but failing to get Nhu out or to change his policies, it was felt here that U. S. officials in Saigon who had worked closely with Nhu are now in a position of decreased influence.

Also, there have been reports of conflict among Cen-

in South Viet Nam over whether there should be changes in the Saigon government.

Richardson's job is said to have required him to work closely with Nhu, head of the South Vietnamese special forces and secret police.

Richardson is not publicly listed as CIA chief in Saigon. Intelligence personnel abroad normally operate under some other designation.

The official roster lists John H. Richardson as a First Secretary and a special assistant to the Ambassador, assigned to Saigon April 29, 1962.

The State Department's Biographical Register says Richardson was born of American parents in Burma in 1913, was educated in California, served in the Army during World War II, and entered Foreign Service work in 1947 with assignments in Vienna, Athens and Manila before going to Saigon.